

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

July 3, 2007

The recent fire on Santa Catalina Island has severely impacted the Island and presented exceptional challenges for the 4,000 residents of Catalina that welcome over one million visitors each year, including more than 60,000 children that enjoy its camps and coves. The majority of the population lives in the City of Avalon, with about 300 residents in the unincorporated area of Two Harbors. Tourism is the major source of income for Island residents, with more than 70% of the Island's adult population working in tourism-related jobs.

The recent Island fire resulted in the loss of several structures, including a home and structures that are directly related to tourism. Approximately 4,750 acres of wildland habitat burned—habitat that will need to be properly and swiftly managed against flooding mudslides and erosion that could pose a threat to property and life during the coming rainy season.

To assist Island residents, business owners, the Catalina Island Conservancy, the Santa Catalina Island Company, the University of Southern California Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies, and the City of Avalon with the permit process associated with rebuilding homes, businesses and lost recreational facilities; repairing the damaged roads, fences and signs; preparing for mudslides and managing the ecological recovery necessary to stabilize slopes and minimize erosion,

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ANTONOVICH	_____
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it is important that Los Angeles County establish a coordinated system so that all Departments work together to ensure that the necessary permits are processed efficiently and in a timely fashion, including permission for temporary housing for workers from the mainland necessary to respond to the impacts of the fire. These workers will supplement Island workers and provide critical services necessary to replace lost property and prevent against the loss of future property.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Coordinate with the appropriate County Departments to expedite the permit process associated with the recovery of Santa Catalina Island.
2. Report back in one week on the feasibility of allowing temporary housing to be used on Santa Catalina Island to accommodate the additional workers necessary to respond to the impacts of the fire.

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